

LACDMH TAKES PART IN STATEWIDE MEDICAL HEALTH EXERCISE

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On Thursday, November 21, 2013, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) participated in the 2013 Statewide Medical Health Exercise (SWMHE) with dozens of other participating county departments and agencies. Coordinated by the Emergency Outreach Bureau Disaster Services Unit, LACDMH deployed liaisons and public information officers (PIO) to support partner agencies. Besides LACDMH, some of the participants included the American Red Cross, Department of Public Health (DPH), Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMS), Health Services, LA County Fire as well as Los Angeles area medical facilities.

The training exercise's simulated scenario involved a foodborne illness (E.coli) that affected dozens of patients countywide. Simultaneously held at the EMS Department Operations Center (DOC) in Santa Fe Springs as well as the DPH DOC in downtown Los Angeles, the exercise was meant to demonstrate and test out how departments and agencies would work together and organize a unified response to a medical/health incident.

